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*United Nations: Premier Kosygin's press conference last night was aimed in part at assuaging Arab fears that the Johnson-Kosygin summit meetings would result in a softening of Moscow's backing for the Arabs.

The Soviet Premier went down the line in reiterating Moscow's consistent public position on the Middle East crisis. He condemned Israeli "aggression" and demanded that Israeli troops be withdrawn to prewar lines. He insisted that Israel should pay reparations and once again raised the question of sanctions.

Given the forum at his disposal, Kosygin's propagandistic performance provided no surprises. [redacted]

[redacted] Soviet officials have recently indicated a more realistic view of the situation. They appear to believe that the Assembly session will not induce the Israelis to withdraw from Arab soil.]

The General Assembly debate resumes today after a two-day break with some 50 countries still tentatively scheduled to speak. Highlighting the opening of this week's round will be the speech of King Husayn of Jordan. The King is expected to emphasize the refugee problem, stressing in particular Israeli "violation" of the Security Council resolution on refugees of 14 June.

The imposing list of speakers should insure that the current session will last beyond this week, thus giving the separate efforts of the Latin Americans, "non-aligned" states, and a group of nations sympathetic to the US position time to develop a compromise between the US and Soviet resolutions. Thus far, however, these efforts have made little progress.

The relatively balanced Mexican concept for a Latin American resolution seems to have been transformed in a working group of Mexico, Chile, Colombia, Venezuela, Panama, and Trinidad into a memo which now calls for withdrawal of Israeli forces to the lines existing

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[redacted]

on 4 June 1967 as the 'prior indispensable basis' for the establishment of conditions of peace. Full Latin American support for the six-nation proposal still seems questionable, however.

25X1 [redacted] a Czech embassy official has stated that Yugoslavia will introduce a non-aligned state's resolution urging Israel to return to its positions of 4 June but not condemning it as an aggressor. The Czech claimed that the resolution had been coordinated with similarly minded delegations at the UN, [redacted]

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Representatives of a third group of states (Italy, Ireland, Brazil, Argentina, Canada, UK, Venezuela, Denmark, the Netherlands, and the US) met on 24 June to consider a new resolution to be sponsored by some nation other than the US. Italian Foreign Minister Fanfani seems to be engaged in promoting such an alternative which would consist of a statement of principles by the Assembly, including withdrawal of Israeli forces, and would be subject to Security Council decision. This group of delegates plus the Japanese had scheduled another meeting for the night of 25 June. [redacted]

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NOTES

USSR-Cuba: Premier Kosygin is expected to leave today for Cuba for what is probably a protocol and fence-mending stop on his return trip to Moscow. Kosygin and the Cuban leaders will almost certainly discuss differences which have recently caused estrangement between Moscow and Havana. The Cubans are upset over Moscow's actions in the Middle East crisis and view them as another indication that the Soviets cannot be counted on when the risks are high. Kosygin will probably urge Castro to be more flexible in his revolutionary tactics in Latin America and to stop working at cross-purposes with the pro-Moscow Communist parties.

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Hong Kong - Communist China: All-out efforts by local Communists to mount a general strike in Hong Kong on 24 June, the eve of the governor's departure, have failed. The British were largely successful in preventing Communist intimidation of workers in target industries, although transportation services were disrupted over the weekend. The Communists provoked sporadic violence and now may try to counter their recent setbacks with a major memorial service and funeral procession for several workers whose deaths they blame on the police. Although Peking continues to voice encouragement for the local Communists, it has not referred to its demands of 15 May that the British apologize for "mistreatment" of the workers.

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Hungary: Cardinal Mindszenty plans to abandon within the next three months the refuge he took in the US Mission in Budapest in 1956. An invitation to Rome from the Pope and the imminent appointment of a US ambassador to Hungary have provided circumstances under which the cardinal now feels that he can leave Hungary without seeming to abandon his principles. Mindszenty's status has not been an impediment in US-Hungarian negotiations for some time and has been bypassed in recent church-state discussions. No significant changes in these policy areas are expected as a result of his departure. [REDACTED]

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Bolivia: Security officials anticipate no further violence by the tin miners who suffered 16 dead and 61 wounded in a clash with police and army troops on 24 June. The clash was provoked by Communists and other extremists eager to channel increasing labor unrest among the miners into a move against the Barrientos government. So far there are no signs that the extremists are succeeding in this aim. More student and miner agitation could easily develop from the incidents on 24 June, however. Continued violence in the mining areas would significantly tax the capabilities of the already hard-pressed regime. [REDACTED]

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